

ABSTRACT

In a word string collating method for collating an input word string and address data in an address dictionary when a word string using part of a plurality of words of a word string such as address information is extracted from the result of character recognition for the word string including the plurality of words, words of the input word string and words used as the address data in the address dictionary are set to correspond to each other, distances between the words are derived based on similarities between the words which are set into the correspondence relations, the positional relation of each word of the input word string which is set into the correspondence relation is derived, and evaluated value is derived based on the thus derived positional relation and the distance between the words which are set in the correspondence relation, and a partial word string extracted from the input word string is determined based on the evaluated value.